

WHAT IS CLAIMED IS:

- 1 1. A method comprising:
 - 2 receiving a boot image from a server via a network;
 - 3 creating a compressed boot image from the boot image; and
 - 4 programming the compressed boot image into a boot ROM of a network adapter.
- 1 2. The method of claim 1, further comprising:
 - 2 programing a loader into the boot ROM.
- 1 3. The method of claim 1, further comprising:
 - 2 programming a decompressor into the boot ROM.
- 1 4. The method of claim 2, further comprising:
 - 2 programming a header into the boot ROM.
- 1 5. The method of claim 4, wherein the programming further comprises:
 - 2 identifying in the header that the boot image is compressed.
- 1 6. The method of claim 4, further comprising:
 - 2 identifying in the header a location of the loader in the boot ROM.
- 1 7. A method comprising:
 - 2 detecting a boot ROM in a network adapter;
 - 3 finding a loader in the boot ROM;
 - 4 loading a decompressor via the loader; and
 - 5 decompressing a boot image from the boot ROM into a decompressed boot image
 - 6 via the decompressor.
- 1 8. The method of claim 7, wherein finding the loader further comprises:
 - 2 finding the loader via a header in the boot ROM.

1 9. The method of claim 7, wherein loading the decompressor further comprises:

2 finding the decompressor via a header in the boot ROM.

1 10. The method of claim 7, further comprising:

2 determining that the boot image is compressed using a header in the boot ROM.

1 11. The method of claim 7, further comprising:

2 finding the boot image using a header in the boot ROM.

1 12. The method of claim 7, further comprising:

2 executing the decompressed boot image to boot an electronic device.

1 13. A signal-bearing medium bearing instructions, which when read and executed

2 comprise:

3 detecting a boot ROM in a network adapter;

4 finding a loader via a header in the boot ROM;

5 finding a decompressor via the header;

6 finding a first binary image via the header; and

7 decompressing the first binary image into a second binary image in memory of

8 an electronic device.

1 14. The signal-bearing medium of claim 13, wherein the instructions further comprise:

2 executing the second binary image to boot the electronic device.

1 15. The signal-bearing medium of claim 13, wherein the instructions further comprise:

2 loading the decompressor via the loader.

1 16. The signal-bearing medium of claim 13, wherein the instructions further comprise

2 determining that the first binary image is compressed via the header.

1 17. A network adapter comprising:

2 a boot ROM including:

3 a boot image;

4 a decompressor to decompress the boot image;

5 a loader to load the decompressor; and

6 a header to indicate a location of the boot image.

1 18. The network adapter of claim 17 wherein the header is further to indicate a location of
2 the loader.

1 19. The network adapter of claim 17, wherein the header is further to indicate a location
2 of the decompressor.

1 20. The network adapter of claim 17, wherein the boot image when decompressed is to
2 boot an electronic device.

1 21. An electronic device comprising:

2 a processor;

3 a network adapter comprising a boot ROM; and

4 a storage device comprising a utility program that when executed on the processor

5 is to compress a boot image into a compressed boot image and program the compressed

6 boot image into the boot ROM.

1 22. The electronic device of claim 21, wherein the utility program is further to program a
2 loader and decompressor into the boot ROM.

1 23. The electronic device of claim 21, wherein the boot image is further to boot an
2 electronic device.

- 1 24. The electronic device of claim 21 further comprising:
- 2 a BIOS to detect the boot ROM.

2025-03-23 10:00